REMARKS

In response to the Office Action, claims 1, 5-8, 12-14, & 16-19 have been amended. Therefore, claims 1-14, and 16-19 remain pending. Applicants note that the Application as-filed did not include a claim 15. Support for the instant amendments is provided throughout the as-filed Specification. Thus, no new matter has been added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

A. SPECIFICATION & DRAWINGS

1. The Specification has been amended to update the related application data.

2. Reference character 28 was inadvertently used to refer to both the "Agent Module" and the "User Interface Module." Accordingly, the reference character associated with the "User Interface Module" has been changed to reference character 29 in the specification, as well as in drawing FIGS. 5 and 7. Now, reference character 28 alone refers to the "Agent Module." With this response, Applicants have submitted a "***Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections to FIGS. 5 and 7.***" Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner approve the changes to the drawings.

B. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

1. Independent claims 1, 8, and 16, and dependent claims 2 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ainsbury *et al.* ("Ainsbury") (U.S.

Patent No. 6,078,924) in view of Clancey *et al.* ("Clancey") (U.S. Patent No. 6,134,563). ***See* Office Action, pg. 2, ¶4.**

2. Dependent claims 3-4, and 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the combination of Ainsbury and Clancey, further in view of Siow *et al.* ("Siow") (U.S. Patent No. 6,301,590). ***See* Office Action, pg. 3, ¶5.**

3. Dependent claims 5, 7, 12, 14, 17, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the combination of Ainsbury and Clancey, further in view of Comer *et al.* ("Comer") (U.S. Patent No. 5,819,293). ***See* Office Action, pg. 4, ¶6.**

4. Dependent claims 6, 13, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the combination of Ainsbury, Clancey, and Comer, further in view of Broman *et al.* ("Broman") (U.S. Patent No. 7,754,858). ***See* Office Action, pg. 5, ¶7.**

Applicants respectfully traverse.

With regard to independent claims 1, 8, and 16, the Examiner concedes that Ainsbury discloses neither the report presenting means for generating a spreadsheet application for the report, nor the report transmission means for transmitting the spreadsheet application within a page over the network to a user system to be displayed in the network user interface. ***See* Office Action, pg. 2, ¶4.**

The Examiner does allege, however, that Ainsbury teaches "*...providing a document analysis using an OLAP query,*" and further recites that this should be compared with

Applicants' claimed report receiving means for receiving a report from an OLAP system. ***See* Office Action, pg. 2, ¶4.** Applicants respectfully disagree.

Ainsbury appears to teach an information platform comprising the following four sections: (1) Data Retrieval; (2) Data Classification and Storage; (3) Information Browsing, Query, Analysis, and Report Creation; and (4) Desktop Integration. According to Ainsbury, the Data Retrieval section comprises the retrieval of information from a plurality of sources (*e.g.*, from the web, a user desktop, or an OLAP query) controlled via a catalog (19), which is built upon an object-oriented database, or store (20). ***See* Ainsbury, FIG. 1.** Once retrieved data has been classified and stored (section 2), users may then access the data in the store for information browsing, query, analysis, and report creation (section 3).

Applicants contend that generating a report from information previously gathered in a data store, as disclosed by Ainsbury, does not anticipate Applicants' claimed report receiving means for receiving a report that has been processed by an OLAP system. Applicants maintain that Ainsbury does not appear to teach the processing of a report by an OLAP system, as disclosed and claimed by Applicants in independent claims 1, 8, and 16. Moreover, the addition of Clancey does not cure the deficiencies in the disclosure of Ainsbury articulated above.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination, teach all of the features of independent claims 1, 8, and 16. Accordingly, Applicants further submit that dependent claims 2-7, and 9-14, and 17-19 are allowable because they depend from allowable independent claims, as well as for the further limitations they contain.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite allowance of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with any suggestions leading to the allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENT A

Clean version of the changes to the Specification &
Clean version of all pending claims

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 1, line 2, has been rewritten as follows:

A1

This application is related by subject matter to the following applications: U.S. Application Serial No. 09/321,830, filed 28-May-1999, entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ASYNCHRONOUS CONTROL OR REPORT GENERATION USING A NETWORK INTERFACE," now U.S. Patent No. 6,279,033, issued 21-Aug-2001; and U.S. Application Serial No. 09/321,743, filed 28-May-1999, entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR NETWORK USER INTERFACE OLAP REPORT FORMATTING."

The paragraph beginning at page 26, line 8, has been rewritten as follows:

A2

A detailed embodiment of a system for enabling users to asynchronously generate report requests is depicted in Fig. 5. Such a system 50 comprises a data warehouse 12, server system 14, network output module 22, user systems 26, user interface modules 29 and network 36. Additionally, server system 14 may be connected to a server cache 44 and network output module 22 may be connected to a network output module cache 46. Further, a network server 42 may be provided to generate output from network output module 22 across network 36 to user systems 26.

The paragraph beginning at page 27, line 17, has been rewritten as follows:

A3

Operation of system 50 may now be described. System 50 may enable users to request reports from server system 14 to be processed against data warehouse 12 through the use of a user interface module, such as a web browser operatively connected over the Internet to a network output module 22. As such a report may be requested by a user through user interface module 29 of user system 26.

The paragraph beginning at page 27, line 22, has been rewritten as follows:

A4

To access the data warehouse, a user may first log in to network server 42 via user system 26. The user may do so by selecting a particular web site maintained by network server 42 or some other mechanism may be used. Network server 42 then presents the user with a view using user interface module 29 (*e.g.*, a web browser) comprising one or more options. A view may comprise a page or series of pages from a website, for example. One option presented in the view may be a mechanism that enables a user to generate a report request through this mechanism in the view. User interface module 29 may be used to submit a request for a report selected by the user to network server 42 over network 36. Network server 42 communicates the request to network output module 22. Network output module 22 receives the request and formulates a report request to be sent to server system 14 for processing using data warehouse 12. Network output module 22 may also perform other steps, as described in detail below with respect to Fig. 3. Network output module 22 may also cooperate with an agent module operatively connected over system 50 to formulate a report. Server system 14 then accesses data warehouse 12 to perform all data retrieval and calculations to provide the report.

The paragraph beginning at page 28, line 15, has been rewritten as follows:

A5

Network output module 22 may provide the functionality to determine whether a report request is the same or substantially the same as a previously requested report prior to forwarding a report to server system 14 for processing. Upon receipt of a report request, network output module 22 also controls network server 42 to present a new view to the user through user interface module 29 via network 36 while continuing to monitor progress of submitted reports identified for the particular user. This enables users to perform other tasks and thereby provides the asynchronous nature of the present invention. For example, the user may operate other views, pages, sites or any other action using user interface module 29, without having to wait for the report generation to be complete before being able to do so.

The paragraph beginning at page 29, line 3, has been rewritten as follows:

A6

After the report generation is complete, server system 14 communicates the report to network output module 22. Network output module 22 prepares the report for presenting to the user(s) that requested the report using user interface module 29. As such, network output module 22 controls asynchronous processing of reports requested by the users.

The paragraph beginning at page 29, line 8, has been rewritten as follows:

Fig. 6 illustrates various components and objects of system 50 that perform tasks and functions described above. These objects may reside anywhere within system 50, but the location of each according to one embodiment is described as well. System 50 comprises a report requesting object 112, a report request receiving object 114, a report request submitting object 116, an option presenting object 118, a selected option receiving object 120, and a selected option submitting object 122. Report requesting object 112 communicates with report request receiving object 114 to enable a user to request a report to be generated. Report requesting object 112 may comprise functionality provided in a web page presented through user interface module 29. Report request receiving object 114 may comprise a module that is a portion of network output module 22. Report request submitting object 116 submits the user's report request for generation. Report request submitting object 116 may comprise an object that is a portion of network output module 22.

IN THE CLAIMS:

A clean version of all pending claims is set forth below:

1. (***Once Amended***) A system for enabling users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) system over a network to present reports processed by the OLAP system with a spreadsheet application within a network user interface, the system comprising:

report receiving means for receiving a report processed by the OLAP system;

report presenting means for generating a spreadsheet application for that report; and

report transmission means for transmitting the spreadsheet application within a page over the network to a user system to be displayed in the network user interface.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the OLAP system is a relational OLAP system.

3. The system of claim 1, further comprising personalizing means for personalizing the report.

4. The system of claim 1, further comprising means for enabling a plurality of the reports to be presented concurrently.

5. (***Once Amended***) The system of claim 1, further comprising report receiving means for receiving report requests and forwarding the requests to the OLAP system, wherein the report requests received comprise formatting macros based on the results of the report, and wherein the report presenting means resolves the macros to modify the presentation of the report according to the contents of the report.

A8

6. (***Once Amended***) The system of claim 5, further comprising an API module that defines characteristics of a report generated by the OLAP system, and a macro creation means that enables creation of macros to format the report based on the content of the report through the use of the API module characteristic definitions.

7. (***Once amended***)The system of claim 5, wherein macros may be applied upon receipt at the user system to manipulate the format of the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.

8. (***Once Amended***) A method for enabling users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) system over a network to present reports processed by the OLAP system with a spreadsheet application within a network user interface, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a report processed by the OLAP system;

generating a spreadsheet application for that report; and

displaying the report with the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the OLAP system is a relational OLAP system.

10. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of personalizing the report.

11. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of enabling a plurality of the reports to be presented concurrently.

12. (***Once Amended***) The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

receiving report requests and forwarding the requests to the OLAP system, wherein the report requests received comprise formatting macros based on the results of the report; and

resolving the macros to modify the presentation of the report according to the contents of the report.

13. (***Once Amended***) The method of claim 12, wherein the system has an API module that defines characteristics of a report generated by the OLAP system, and further comprising the step of creating macros to format the report based on the content of the report through use of the API module characteristic definitions.

14. (***Once Amended***) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of applying macros upon receipt at the user system to manipulate the format of the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.

16. (***Once Amended***) A computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for enabling users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) system over a network to a server system to present reports processed by the OLAP system with a spreadsheet application within a network user interface, the medium comprising:

computer readable program code for causing a computer to receive a report processed by the OLAP system;

computer readable program code for causing a computer to generate a spreadsheet application based on the report; and

computer readable program code for causing a computer to present the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.

16
17. (*Once Amended*) The medium of claim 16, further comprising code for causing a computer to receive report requests and forward the requests to the OLAP system, wherein the report requests received comprise formatting macros based on the results of the report; and

code for causing a computer to resolve the macros to modify the presentation of the report according to the contents of the report.

17
~~18.~~ (*Once Amended*) The medium of claim 17, further comprising code for providing an API module that defines characteristics of a report generated by the OLAP system, and code for causing a computer to enable a user to create macros to format the report based on the content of the report through use of the API module characteristic definitions.

18
~~19.~~ (*Once Amended*) The medium of claim 17, further comprising code for causing a computer to apply macros at the user system upon receipt at the user system to manipulate the format of the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.